

Serial No. 09/400,492

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Group Art Unit: 1646

-- As used herein, a "biologically active portion" of a PCIP protein includes a fragment of a PCIP protein which participates in an interaction between a PCIP molecule and a non-PCIP molecule. Biologically active portions of a PCIP protein include peptides comprising amino acid sequences sufficiently identical to or derived from the amino acid sequence of the PCIP protein, e.g., the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30, SEQ ID NO:32, SEQ ID NO:34, SEQ ID NO:36, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:40, SEQ ID NO:49, SEQ ID NO:51, SEQ ID NO:53, SEQ ID NO:55, SEQ ID NO:57, SEQ ID NO:59, SEQ ID NO:70, or SEQ ID NO:72, which include less amino acids than the full length PCIP proteins, and exhibit at least one activity of a PCIP protein. Typically, biologically active portions comprise a domain or motif with at least one activity of the PCIP protein, e.g., binding of a potassium channel subunit. A biologically active portion of a PCIP protein can be a polypeptide which is, for example, 10, 25, 50, 100, 200, or more amino acids in length. Biologically active portions of a PCIP protein can be used as targets for developing agents which modulate a potassium channel mediated activity.--

In the claims:

Please cancel claim 22, without prejudice, and amend claims 1, 3, 17, 18 and 19 as follows:

1. **(Amended)** A method for identifying a compound suitable for treating a cardiovascular disorder comprising:
 - a) contacting a 9q PCIP polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, and 28, or a cell expressing said 9q PCIP polypeptide with a test compound; and
 - b) determining whether said 9q PCIP polypeptide binds to said test compound, thereby identifying a compound suitable for treating a cardiovascular disorder.

3. **(Amended)** A method for identifying a compound suitable for treating a cardiovascular disorder, comprising: